

REMARKS

This patent application was filed on October 28, 1999. Applicant has not yet received an Office Action for this application. Attached to this Amendment are the following:

1. Substitute sheets 42-62; and
2. Sheets 42A-64A.

Attached substitute sheets 42-62 provide revised claims 1-38, newly added claims 39-84, and the Abstract. Attached sheets 42A-64A indicate the differences between substitute sheets 42-64 and originally filed pages 42-52. The differences are indicated as follows: deletions are struck-through and additions are double-underlined.

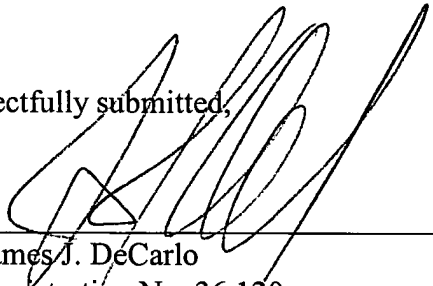
By this preliminary amendment, applicant has amended claims 1-11, 13-16, 20, 21, 24-32, and 34-38, and added claims 39-84. Accordingly, claims 1-84 are pending in the subject application. Support for the newly added claims may be found in the specification at page 6, lines 12-25, page 7, lines 1-23, page 8, lines 1-6, page 11, and lines 1-24. No new matter is added by this amendment.

Applicant respectfully requests entry of this Preliminary Amendment prior to examination of the present application. Early and favorable consideration of the present application is earnestly requested.

Authorization is hereby given to charge the amount of any fees required in connection with this amendment to Patent and Trademark Office Deposit Account No. 19-4709.

Respectfully submitted,

By



James J. DeCarlo
Registration No. 36,120
Stroock & Stroock & Lavan LLP
180 Maiden Lane
New York, New York 10038-4982
(212) 806-5400